

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT**  
**ROUTING SLIP**

TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X		
2	DDCI		X		
3	EXDIR				
4	D/ICS		X		
5	DDI		X		
6	DDA				
7	DDO				
8	DDS&T		X		
9	Chm/NIC		X		
10	GC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/OCA				
14	D/PAO				
15	D/PERS				
16	D/Ex Staff				
17	D/OSWR/DI		X (w/att)		
18	NIO/SP		X		
19	NIO/S&T		X		
20	ER				
21					
22					

SUSPENSE \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks

3637 (10-81)

Executive Secretary

21 Aug 87

Date

STAT

Executive Registry

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION 87-4116X  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20546

AUG 17 1987

THE ADMINISTRATOR

Honorable William H. Webster  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, DC 20505

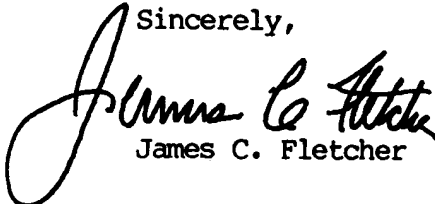
Dear Mr. Webster:

Last year I asked Dr. Sally Ride to lead a study to develop a set of bold new space initiatives which, if pursued in whole or in part, could regain and retain the U.S. civil space lead we once enjoyed. I enclose an advance copy of her final report to me, titled Leadership and America's Future in Space, which outlines four possible initiatives. Dr. Ride suggests that the U.S. should adopt a strategy of natural progression leading unhurriedly from experience in Earth orbit to further experience on the moon and eventually to the exploration of Mars by Americans.

Also enclosed is a copy of a letter to Dr. Ride from me that characterizes my response to her report. The report and this letter are being released today.

I believe Dr. Ride's report will energize discussion of NASA long-range goals and I look forward to those discussions.

Sincerely,

  
James C. Fletcher

Enclosures

DCI  
EXEC  
REG

1-243-15



National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

Washington, D C  
20546

Office of the Administrator

AUG 12 1987

Dr. Sally K. Ride  
Special Assistant to the Administrator  
National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration  
Washington, DC 20546

Dear Sally:

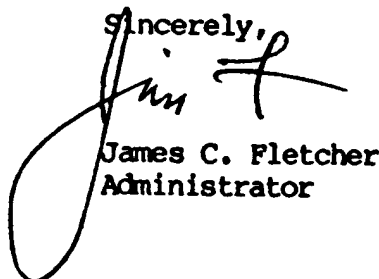
Your report, Leadership and America's Future in Space, fully meets the challenge you have set for your effort: you have contributed strongly to a process that will determine the goals and directions of the nation's civil space activities well into the next century.

I commend the principles of careful program balance and sustained national commitment you espouse. I particularly appreciate the emphases you place on the need for a very broad, very solid base of enabling technologies upon which to build any future program. The four initiatives you have chosen as possible points of focus for national leadership nicely bracket the spectrum of possibilities and should serve to energize and guide the debate on NASA's next set of technical activities aimed at turning a national vision into a programmatic reality.

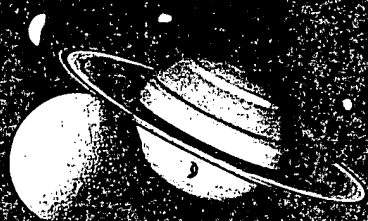
I also want to note my personal--as well as NASA's official--appreciation for your contribution to our overall strategic and long-range planning, in terms both of content and process. Our processes from now on will owe much to your pathfinder work. Your "IA" group of young tigers has shown us all how much intellectual energy is available to us if properly awakened. And the new Office of Exploration is another permanent contribution to NASA in which you should take satisfaction.

You have well and truly discharged the difficult task I asked you to undertake. You have opened a bright window on the issues of leadership in space and the means to reach--and sustain--that position. It is with deep appreciation that I accept your report, Leadership and America's Future in Space.

Sincerely,



James C. Fletcher  
Administrator



NASA

# LEADERSHIP

*and America's Future in Space*

